

nursing scholarship for certain nursing students; and generally relating to nursing scholarships under the program of Economic Development Student Assistance Grants.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Education

Section 18-706

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Education

18-706.

(a) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(1) "Eligible organization" means an institution, including a licensed hospital, nursing home, adult day care center, public health agency, home health agency, or other organization authorized by the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene.

(2) "Eligible institution" means an institution of postsecondary education:

(i) Approved to operate by the Maryland Higher Education Commission; and

(ii) That awards nursing degrees or diplomas.

(3) "Nursing shortage area" means a recognized area of nursing service or specialization determined by the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to be an area where there exists a shortage of qualified nurses in eligible organizations.

(4) "Nursing student" means a student enrolled in a postsecondary nursing education degree or diploma program at an eligible institution.

(5) "Service obligation" means employment as a nurse in a nursing shortage area in an eligible organization.

(b) (1) Economic Development Student Assistance Grants may be awarded as scholarships for nursing students in nursing shortage areas.

(2) (i) The nursing scholarship awarded under this section shall be in the amount of tuition and fees not to exceed ~~[\$2,400]~~ ~~\$5,000~~ \$3,000 annually for a full-time student or a prorated award according to the number of credit hours taken by a part-time student.

(ii) Each award shall be renewable on an annual basis up to a maximum amount of ~~[\$9,600]~~ ~~\$20,000~~ \$12,000, if the recipient: